

## **IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace paragraph [0002] with the following amended paragraph:

[0002] A movable component of a piece of furniture such as a drawer of a desk, or a door of a wardrobe generates a loud bang when it slams shut with excessive force. Such noise is distracting and a nuisance. Sometimes, the same piece of furniture may even be damaged as a result of such forceful action. It is, therefore, desirable to shut a door or a drawer in a more controlled manner.

Please replace paragraph [0004] with the following amended paragraph:

[0004] Subsequently, European Patent Application EP 1236 925 A2 discloses a damper assembly for the use in connection with drawer slides, and doors for cupboard cupboards. The damper assembly comprises a cylinder of uniform bore adapted to receive a piston in a sealing engagement with the bore and to move axially of the bore, the piston being provided with a piston rod in sealing engagement with a bush acting to close one end of the bore, the opposite end being permanently closed. Part of the piston, termed as the piston ring by the inventor, is made of a resiliently deformable material which flattens under compressive force and the same part is pressed against the inner wall of the cylinder to provide frictional force during the inward stroke of the piston into the cylinder. However, the disadvantage of this sort of damper assembly is that the piston ring is highly

prone to frictional ~~tear and wear~~ wear and tear.

Please replace paragraph [0009] with the following amended paragraph:

[0009] [[A]] a disc having multiple passages for fluid to flow from one side of the said disc to the other side, and an axle with one or more guide members disposed on the surface of the said axle at an angle;

Please replace paragraph [0010] with the following amended paragraph:

[0010] [[A]] a rotatable annular cover piece which rotates about the said axle, such that rotation of the cover piece in one direction closes the said openings and in the other direction opens up the said openings;

Please replace paragraph [0011] with the following amended paragraph:

[0011] [[An]] an annular turning piece, which is structurally connected to the cover piece, having some form of retention mechanism wherein the retention mechanism fits or engages slidingly to the said guide member on the surface of the said axle, so that the turning piece rotates when the retention mechanism slides along the guide member,

Please replace paragraph [0012] with the following amended paragraph:

[0012] [[A]] a spring disposed between the said turning piece and the said

cover piece, to push the turning piece back to its original position and consequently rotates the cover piece (20) to a position that opens up the openings of the said disc (10).

Please replace paragraph [0014] with the following amended paragraph:

[0014] In one embodiment, the guide member is a ridge and it fits to a channel on the inner edge of the turning piece. In another embodiment, the guide member is a groove and the retention mechanism is a knob extending from the inner surface of the turning piece.

Please replace paragraph [0016] with the following amended paragraph:

[0016] In yet another embodiment, the fluidic damper ~~even~~ has an additional spring which connects the closed end of the cylinder to the assembly of valve mechanism and piston rod to help the piston rod to restore to its original position before being depressed.

Please replace paragraph [0024] with the following amended paragraph:

[0024] FIG. 3C shows that the chamfered portions of the annular disc portion, the cover piece and the turning piece are ~~slight~~slightly out of place when the piston rod being depressed at slow speed. This is because the turning piece has moved towards the cover piece slightly, and has rotated at the same time.

Please replace paragraph [0025] with the following amended paragraph:

[0025] FIG. 3D shows that when the same piston rod is being depressed at a faster speed, the turning piece, as well as the cover piece, has rotated more.

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph:

[0026] FIG. 3E shows that when the same piston rod is being withdrawn at an even faster speed, the chamfered portions of the annular disc portion, the cover piece and the turning piece are totally covered, as shown in FIG. 2B.

Please replace paragraph [0028] with the following amended paragraph:

[0028] FIG. 3G shows that the chamfered portions of the annular disc portion, the cover piece and the turning piece remain in line with each other while the additional spring pushes the piston rod back out of the cylinder.

Please replace paragraph [0033] with the following amended paragraph:

[0033] In order to vary the drag force experienced by the valve mechanism (90), the annular cover piece (20) is used to adjust the area of which the fluid can flow through the disc portion (10). It slips onto hollow shaft (15) and is disposed adjacent to the disc portion (10). At one position, the cover piece (20) will cover the maximum area of which the fluid can flow through, and as a result, the valve

mechanism (90) will experience maximum drag force. However, as the cover piece (20) begins to rotate in a direction, it slowly uncovers the openings. In the same direction, it slowly rotates to another position at which maximum flow of fluid can be achieved. At this position, most openings will be open. In contrast, if the cover piece (20) was to rotate from the position at which maximum flow of fluid through the disc (10) is achieved, in the opposite direction, it would close up the openings again. In one embodiment, the outer periphery of the cover piece (20) is partially chamfered (27) to match the pattern of fluid passages of the disc portion (10), so as to provide a path through which the fluid in the bore (130) can escape.

Please replace paragraph [0034] with the following amended paragraph:

[0034] The rotation of the cover piece (20) is effected by an annular turning piece (40) which is structurally connected to the said cover piece (20) by means of withholding claws (25) extending from the cover piece (20). The outer circular periphery of the turning piece (40) is also partially chamfered (47) and it is placed between the cover piece (20) and the closed end of the cylinder (100).

Please replace paragraph [0035] with the following amended paragraph:

[0035] The turning piece (40) is designed to rotate when it slides along the hollow shaft (15). This is accomplished by having a guide member (17) on the external surface of the hollow shaft (15). The guide member (17) is slightly angled

with respect to the common axis of rotation of both cover (20) and turning piece (40). On the other hand, the turning piece (40) has some form of retention mechanism for holding itself onto the guide member (17) and tracing the path of the guide member (17) on the surface of the hollow shaft (15). The mechanism either fits or engages slidingly to the said guide member (17) without dislodging, and can be integral of the turning piece (40). For example, if the guide member is a ridge (17), the corresponding retention mechanism can be a notch (45) having complementary receiving surface which is formed by depressing the inner surface of the turning piece (40). Alternatively, the guide member could be a groove (17A) on the surface of the hollow shaft (15). Knob (45A) extending from the inner surface of the turning piece (40A) fits into the said groove (17A) and consequently the turning piece [(45A)] (40A) is able to turn about the hollow shaft (15) as the knob (45A) slides along the groove (17A).

Please replace paragraph [0036] with the following amended paragraph:

[0036] A spring (30) coiling around the hollow shaft (15) of disc portion (10) is placed in between the cover piece (20) and turning piece (40). When the valve mechanism (90) is stationary, the spring (30) will be fully extended, pushing the turning piece (40) right to the furthest end away from the cover piece (20). ~~Having withheld by the claws (25) which extend from the cover piece (20), the~~ The turning piece (40) is prevented from being expelled from [[of]] the hollow shaft (15) as it is

held by the claws (25) which extend from the cover piece (20). A gap exists between the disc portion (10) and the cover piece (20). However, when the external portion of the piston rod (110) is initially depressed, this gap closes up as the disc portion (10) is pushed forward by the piston rod (110). Subsequently, the whole valve mechanism (90) is propelled towards the closed end of the cylinder (100). Initially at low speed, the spring (30) between the cover (20) and turning piece (40) is able to counter the drag exerted on the turning piece (40). However, as the valve mechanism (90) accelerates, the drag on the turning piece (40) also increases. The turning piece (40) inadvertently experiences significant resistance in motion and hence slows down. Being slower than the cover piece (20), the turning piece (40) compresses the spring (30) against the cover piece (20). As it moves relatively towards cover piece (20), the cover piece (20), together with the turning piece [(30)] (40), rotates and restricts the openings through which the fluid can escape. With less fluid flowing through the disc portion (10), the valve mechanism (90) experiences stronger resistive force to counter the motion of the piston rod (110) until the piston rod (110) slows down to a certain speed. However, when the entire mechanism (90) moves away from the closed end, the turning piece (40) remains at its original position without turning. The disc portion (10) is fully open (with openings minimally covered) and the piston rod (110) extends with minimum resistance.